



SOUTH CAROLINA

# BICENTENNIAL NEWS



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"Battleground of Freedom"

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## Columbian Wins For State Medal

James L. Haynsworth of Columbia designed the medallion that captured the major award in competition to create a South Carolina Bicentennial medal design as part of the Palmetto State's celebration of the American Revolution and its part in the struggle.



Haynsworth won the \$5,000 top prize, awarded to him by Gov. John C. West following judging of 171 other entries. Second, third and fourth place prizes of \$2,500, \$1,500 and \$1,000 went to Tom Flowers of the Furman University art department; Henry T. Stone of Columbia; and Miss Jean McWhorter, staff member at Richland Art School.

The Franklin Mint, Franklin Center, Pa., contributed the prize money and administration of competition. The mint will produce a series of 50 Bicentennial commemorative medals, using the first prize winner offerings from each state.

Haynsworth's winning entry depicts Sgt. William Jasper's heroic moment at Fort Moultrie.

The state medal is expected to be available for purchase by the public in the near future.

## S. C. Bicentennial Work To Be Mostly Local Effort

### Charleston Out Front

The lead in the article says: "The Bicentennial Bandits of Charleston, S. C., are stealing the march on other American communities."

Writing for the North American Newspaper Alliance, DeWitt Nicholson said his findings in the Port City showed that a "spirited local committee is out to make Charleston 'the' Bicentennial city. They are undaunted by plans of Philadelphia, Washington, New York and Boston."

South Carolinians keeping a patriot's eye on the Bicentennial progress in the Palmetto State, most likely would agree, as the city by the sea sets about making the best use of its vast arsenal of history.

Nicholson listed his findings of current activity, and Ben Boozer, heading up the Charleston effort, says those findings are correct. Here they are:

— "Charleston Patriots succeeded spectacularly in seizing and holding British powder and arms at the beginning of the Revolution while all others failed.

— "In spite of heroic efforts at Lexington, Concord and Bunker Hill, no full Patriot victory was achieved until the battle of Ft. Sullivan at Charleston on June 23, 1776. This defeat of British land

History-spangled South Carolina is quietly and steadily started on its way to celebrating America's 200th birthday of freedom.

Operating under the "do-it-yourself" way of the state's pioneer people, the state is divided into 10 regional planning offices which encompass the 46 counties. The byword is having local people create their own contribution to the American birthday.

P. Bradley Morrah of Greenville, former state senator, is chairman of the Palmetto State's American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, which is made up of state legislators, state employees from proper agencies and knowledgeable citizens.

The commission has subscribed to the national commission's concept of a three-part commemoration — "Heritage" (past); "Festival" (present); and "Horizons" (future).

South Carolina is unique in this national effort. The vast majority of the 180 military engagements fought on revolutionary soil took part in South Carolina. With this in mind, the state has seized its claim to being the "Battleground of Freedom." These words rest beneath the logo that shows a cannon and Palmetto Tree and also bears the dates 1775 and 1783.

The obvious and not-so-obvious works are expected to be ready for the 1976 moment when South Carolinians join the nation in a happy birthday wish for America.



## EDITORIAL

South Carolina yields to no state in the history of our nation. Her part in its founding, its almost unbelievable contribution to the great, original struggle for American freedom are legend. Thus we have all, and more, required to be the state where the Bicentennial celebration is to show our past, present and future.

We can dwell with warranted pride on our past, stand firmly on our present, and look with true optimism to our future. I ask that pride be poured by our people into the 1976 observance of our 200 years of freedom. I know we shall be not found wanting any more than we were when the American Revolution demanded — and received of us — the selfless life that won our freedom.

— GOV. JOHN C. WEST

### Charleston

and sea forces by Charlestonians and neighboring South Carolinians significantly influenced the Continental Congress to vote independence for the colonies.

— “Of revolutionary battles in America a whopping majority were fought on South Carolina soil.

— “Charleston contributed some 3,000 lbs. in cash and 1,000 barrels of rice — more than any other colony, even Massachusetts — to famine struck Boston and sent supplies to that beleaguered area in almost endless wagon trains.

— “Charleston was the metropolis of Southern colonies with 400 ships a year calling at her port. She was the fourth largest city in the colonies and the largest south of Philadelphia.”

### Bicentennial Projects

— Comprehensive Bicentennial plans are far advanced in Charleston with top community leaders heading hundreds of major projects. Included are:

—A Robert Mills Exposition to focus on the world-famous Charleston architect who designed the Washington Monument. Prize money will go to architectural students around the world who complete the best models of Mills' structures. The models will be exhibited in Charleston with one that projects Mills' engineering and architectural concepts as they would have applied in the year 2000.

—The current South Carolina General Assembly reenacting in Charleston an historic December 3, 1776, meeting in the Exchange Building which spawned the political structure to which the General Assembly traces its lineage.

—Refurbishing the Exchange Building, Charleston's “Independence Hall” from which sprang the revolutionary actions of South Carolina.

—Tours by day and at night of numerous revolutionary and pre-revolutionary houses, plantations and other buildings.

—Expanding Charles Towne Landing, a huge Plantation Park on the site of the 1670 settlement of Charleston.

### Naval Museum

Building a Naval Museum with ships, artifacts, and documents and a complementing 500-acre recreational complex to be known as Patriot's Point.

Exploiting Southern hospitality through a series of costumed balls and other social events culminating in the George Washington Ball of 1976.

A series of mammoth outdoor pageants.

Re-creation of the nation's first railroad which originated in Charleston.



## Reading Club Is Sponsored

Youth will be served by the Bicentennial.

The State Library and the Commission have agreed that the library shall sponsor the American Patriot Reading Club during the summer vacation periods of 1974 and 1975 to bring the story of the American Revolution and meaning of the Bicentennial to an expected enrollment of more than 80,000 South Carolina children.

While they are learning of their country, they also will be working toward acknowledgment of their work by the awarding of certificates, buttons and/or other appropriate awards.

The Commission will provide needed funding assistance from sources other than state appropriations.

### South Carolina Bicentennial News

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## ***"STAMP ACT" IS AWAITED***

Governmental action is being awaited on the Bicentennial Commission's resolution requesting commemorative postage stamps in honor of Revolutionary War heroes connected with South Carolina.

The legendary Francis Marion, embattled denizen of South Carolina swamps, is among the five

whose war for freedom exploits are felt to qualify them for stamp honors. Others are Sgt. William Jasper of Fort Moultrie fame; Count Pulaski, Polish patriot whose services on behalf of America led to his death at Savannah; Gen. Baron DeKalb of Germany, killed at Camden; and Francis Salvador, killed near Ninety Six.

### **Interest Tremendous, Bob Maxwell Reports**

Robert M. Maxwell, deputy coordinator for Bicentennial Inter-State Relations, says national interest and activity in Bicentennial planning work "is almost beyond comprehension."

"It is nearly unbelievable the energy and enthusiasm which all the states have been putting into this enormous event," he said.

In his role as liaison with other states in the undertaking, Maxwell has the opportunity to observe first-hand what the rest of the nation is doing.

"As for our own part," he said, "we are in the forefront and I have no doubt will remain there because South Carolina's part in the gaining of American freedom is assuredly the main one."



This is the official logogram of the South Carolina American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. It was designed by Robert M. Maxwell, Deputy Coordinator for Inter-State Relations for the Commission.

## ***Quality Items Are Required***

Mere trinketry is out in South Carolina's efforts toward celebrating the 200th anniversary of American freedom.

The Commission warns that it will "extend official endorsement only to quality items that stand to enhance its basic objectives."

So attempts by trinket dealers to benefit from the state's role in the Bicentennial should heed that "no organization will be appointed as the Commission's exclusive representative, and it does not plan to engage in the individual sale of items."

## **All To Share In Idea Field**

Every interested citizen has an idea as to what he can contribute to South Carolina's Bicentennial salute to the nation's 200th birthday. And many of them undoubtedly are among these already being offered by the Commission as suggestions.

However, nothing is to be overlooked, if possible. Some though as yet unheard of could answer a definite need. Meanwhile, here are some examples from idea guidelines:

Preservation of historic buildings in our many communities; tape-recording reminiscences of older citizens; original plays with historical themes to be produced by local theater groups; historic tours of historic homes and other places; community craft groups to recapture early domestic arts like weaving, woodcarving, etc.; reading programs to acquaint and reacquaint people with the American Revolutionary War period.

These are but a few ideas which communities can join in, and there is no doubt many more rest in the minds of citizens.

## **Dr. Lee Urging Local Autonomy**

The local initiative aspect of the Bicentennial celebration has been emphasized by Dr. Charles E. Lee.

Dr. Lee, Director of the State Department of Archives and History and deputy executive secretary of the Bicentennial Commission, told a meeting of regional planning officers that they would not be totally subject to the state commission.

He said everyone's ideas on the event are important and state personnel would not tell local people what to do. He cautioned, however, that people involved in local projects should possess needed knowledge. This point was also emphasized by Ben Boozer of the Charleston Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department, who said Charleston wants to maintain historical authenticity in all its endeavors.



## CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

I dislike using the word obligation in referring to such an enjoyable matter as celebrating our nation's Bicentennial. But South Carolina definitely has an obligation.

The slightest consideration of the momentuous part South Carolina played in the Revolutionary War — indeed, the entire period that gave birth to our nation — leads anyone to accept that.

We don't have the relatively simpler task of states who were unknown during those calamitous times. After all, Western states need not look to the needs of its Revolutionary Period battlefields, buildings, or personalities who shaped those days, or to a landscape that is in itself pure Americana.

I am pleased with the progress so far, but I must warn and re-warn that the time between now and the initial celebration of the great event can be misleading. It is actually a short amount of time for agreement and action.

Let's proceed with joy and obligation. And let's proceed NOW.

— P. BRADLEY MORRAH, JR.

## Pulitzer Winner Teaches Lesson

A Pulitzer winner says "if history is to be anything, it is the study of change over time."

Carl N. Zegler, professor of history at Stanford, wrote in "The State" newspaper of March 25 that there is a pitfall in viewing heroes of the Revolutionary period as one-dimensional characters — all-out heroes or all-out villains.

"We can gain no understanding of our forebears," he wrote, "if we impose on people of the past our own values or hopes. But if we take them on their own terms, we can learn how they grappled with their problems — and we may even learn a little better how to deal with our own."

Zegler, commenting on the Bicentennial, said if we learn that lesson, "then there will indeed be something to celebrate."

## State Work Not New to Morrah

Bicentennial Chairman P. Bradley Morrah, Jr., is no newcomer to the task of getting things done through committees and larger groups of people.

As a former legislator, Morrah

*Chairman  
Morrah*



is used to the world of large-scale endeavor, and he considers this job as large as any he has yet taken on.

A Lancaster native, Morrah has been a resident of Greenville where he has operated a law practice for many years. He was educated in Greenville schools, was graduated from The Citadel in 1936, and from the Duke University Law School in 1939.

A World War II veteran, Morrah married the former Edna Burgess of Perth, Australia, whom he met during the Pacific campaign of that conflict.

He served in the State House of Representatives in 1941 and again from 1947-48, becoming a state senator in 1953 and serving until 1967.

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